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HOUSE BILL 3250
By Jones U (Shel)

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 2 and Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 5, relative to dropout prevention.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-202, is amended by designating the current language as subsection “(a)” and by adding the following new language, to be designated as subsection “(b)”:

(b) In the interest of a more efficient and effective system of public education throughout the state, on January 1, 1999, there is hereby created within the department of education a separate administrative division, to be known as the division of dropout prevention. The division shall develop, implement, coordinate, monitor, examine and otherwise administer all policies, programs, activities, projects, assistance and contracts through which dropout prevention services are provided by, or funded through, state government. The division of dropout prevention shall be under the charge and general supervision of the assistant commissioner of dropout prevention.

SECTION 2. Effective July 1, 1998, there is hereby created a transition committee on dropout prevention. The transition committee shall consist of the commissioner of finance and administration, the commissioner of education and the comptroller of the treasury. In the interest of a more efficient and effective system of public education throughout the state, it shall

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be the duty of the transition committee to identify all fiscal, personnel and other resources utilized exclusively or primarily by state government to develop, implement, coordinate, monitor, examine and otherwise administer dropout prevention policies, programs, activities, projects, assistance and contracts. On or before December 1, 1998, the transition committee shall report its findings as well as its recommendations for transfer and consolidation of such resources within the division of dropout prevention. Such report of findings and recommendations shall be timely filed with the governor and the general assembly, at which time the committee shall cease to exist. By means of an executive order as authorized by Tennessee Code Annotated, § 4-4-102, on January 1, 1999 the governor shall implement the transfer and consolidation recommendations of the transition committee. The governor shall also submit such legislation to the one hundred first general assembly as may be needed to amend Tennessee Code Annotated to reflect transfers effectuated by such executive order.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.